

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for monitoring an apparatus interacting with supporting a plurality of computers on a network and controlling the computers accordingly comprising:
running an apparatus monitoring program on a monitoring computer on the network;
configuring a subordinate program with [[a]] the monitoring program on a monitoring computer; and
installing the configured subordinate program from the monitoring computer to a target computer on the network;
monitoring the operational status of the supporting apparatus with the monitoring program;
generating from the monitoring program a subordinate program instruction based on the operational status of the supporting apparatus;
transmitting the subordinate program instruction from the monitoring computer across the network to the target computer; and
changing an operational characteristic of the target computer based on the subordinate program instruction.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the monitoring computer receiving a message from the apparatus.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising determining from the message if a shutdown condition exists by using the monitoring program.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising transmitting wherein the subordinate program instruction is a shutdown instruction from the monitoring program to the subordinate program if the shutdown condition exists.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising wherein changing the operational characteristic is shutting down the target computer with the subordinate program based on the received shutdown instruction.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising installing the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer comprises by pushing the subordinate program to the target computer via the network.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising installing the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer comprises by installing the subordinate program from a floppy diskette or other removable media.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising installing the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer comprises by e-mailing the subordinate program as a file of executable code from the monitoring computer to the target computer.
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising installing the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer comprises by downloading the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer via the network.

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10. (Previously presented) A system for monitoring an apparatus providing support for or interacting with computers on a network, the system comprising:

- a monitoring computer having a monitoring program and adapted to receive data from the apparatus, the monitoring program comprising:
 - a first routine for determining an alarm condition of the apparatus from the data,
 - a second routine for determining a target computer on the network affected by the alarm condition of the apparatus, and
 - a third routine for sending a predetermined instruction to the affected target computer over the network; and
- a subordinate program configured by the monitoring program and adapted to be installed on the target computer by the monitoring program, the subordinate program adapted to receive the predetermined instruction and performing a shutdown routine of the affected target computer.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the apparatus is an uninterruptible power supply.

12. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 10, wherein the apparatus is a detection device selected from the group consisting of a smoke alarm, a burglar alarm, a fire detector, a water detector, or an unauthorized access detector.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the subordinate program is adapted to be transferred from the monitoring computer having the monitoring program to the target computer via the network.

14. (Previously presented) A system for monitoring an apparatus providing support for or interacting with computers on a network comprising:

- a monitoring computer having a monitoring program and adapted to:
 - receive data from the apparatus,
 - determine an alarm condition of the apparatus,
 - determine a computer on the network affected by the alarm condition of the apparatus,
 - send a shutdown instruction to the affected target computer; and
- a subordinate program configured by the monitoring program and adapted to be installed on the target computer by the monitoring program, the subordinate program adapted to:
 - receive the shutdown instruction, and
 - shut down the affected target computer.

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the subordinate program is adapted to be transferred to the target computer from the monitoring program via the network.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the apparatus is an uninterruptible power supply.

17. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 14, wherein the apparatus is a detection device selected from the group consisting of a smoke alarm, a burglar alarm, a fire detector, a water detector, or an unauthorized access detector.

18. – 20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously presented) A system for controlling an uninterruptible power supply providing support for a target computer on a network comprising:

- an uninterruptible power supply;
- a monitoring computer;
- a target computer;
- a network coupling the uninterruptible power supply, the monitoring computer, and the target computer;

the monitoring computer comprising a monitoring program adapted to:

- receive a network message including data from the uninterruptible power supply;
- determine an alarm condition of the uninterruptible power supply from the data in the message;
- determine a computer on the network affected by the alarm condition of the uninterruptible power supply;
- configure a subordinate program to be installed over the network on a target computer by the monitoring program;
- install the subordinate program on the target computer over the network;

the target computer comprising an installed subordinate program and adapted to:

- receive a network message from the uninterruptible power supply including a shutdown instruction; and
- shut down the target computer based on the received shutdown instruction.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the subordinate program is installed on the target computer over the network by pushing the subordinate program to the target computer over the network.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the subordinate program is installed on the target computer over the network by pulling the subordinate program from the monitoring computer to the target computer via the network.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the subordinate program is installed on the target computer over the network by e-mailing executable code from the monitoring computer to the target computer.
25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the subordinate program comprises portable code.
26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the subordinate program has default configuration parameters that may be reset during installation on the target computer.
27. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein monitoring the operational status of the apparatus comprises sending and receiving messages across a dedicated communication link between the monitoring computer and the apparatus.
28. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein monitoring the operational status of the apparatus comprises sending and receiving messages across the network between the monitoring computer and the apparatus.
29. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating from the monitoring program a monitoring computer instruction based on the operational status of the supporting apparatus.
30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the monitoring computer instruction is a monitoring computer shutdown instruction.
31. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein running the subordinate program comprises running the subordinate program in the background of the target computer.
32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein running the subordinate program in the background of the target computer does not provide a target computer user interface.

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33. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising accessing the subordinate program on the target computer across the network from the monitoring computer.